

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### TRIBUTE TO MR. BILL CECIL

#### HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 10, 2004*

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Bill Cecil, of Waverly Intermediate School in Lansing, who was chosen as Michigan's Teacher of the Year for 2003–2004. For the past 16 years, Mr. Cecil has been a dedicated and passionate educator and mentor for his students.

Mr. Cecil created the "Best Year Ever" program as a means of getting his students excited about the challenges and opportunities of a new school year. The program places an emphasis on working together as a team to achieve common goals, while stressing the importance of attitude, effort and attendance. Additionally, Mr. Cecil is a strong advocate of parental involvement in a child's success, and he encourages such participation within his classroom.

Mr. Cecil's positive attitude and tireless dedication to making a difference in the lives of his students makes him an ideal selection for Michigan's Teacher of the Year. Furthermore, his enthusiasm and creativity make him a model of success for students, parents and teachers across the country.

On behalf of my constituents of Michigan's Eighth Congressional District, I ask my colleagues to join with me in recognizing Bill Cecil for this well-deserved honor, Michigan's Teacher of the Year.

### DEPLORING ABUSE OF PERSONS IN UNITED STATES CUSTODY IN IRAQ

SPEECH OF

#### HON. TODD TIAHRT

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 6, 2004*

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, Like all Americans, I am appalled and saddened at the recent reports and pictures out of Abu Ghraib prison in Iraq which show inexcusable treatment of Iraqi prisoners by a handful of American soldiers.

While these acts of humiliation apparently were committed by a very, very small number of our troops and contractors serving in Iraq, the image of our entire nation has been tarnished.

I believe Congress must closely examine these revelations of misconduct and those who are responsible, both directly and indirectly, should face swift and appropriate punishment.

Unfortunately, the damage they have done to America's standing in the Arab community and the world will take far longer to repair.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that the outstanding men and women of our armed forces in Iraq—

nearly all of whom had absolutely no part in this reprehensible behavior—can indeed repair the damage that has been done by an irresponsible few. Every day these brave men and women courageously perform their duties with honor as part of our efforts to give the Iraqi people a lasting democracy.

Throughout our history, America has been known for its compassion, decency, and sense of fairness and I am confident that through a continued commitment to democracy and human rights not only in Iraq, but around the world, we will remain what Abraham Lincoln called "The Last Great Hope on Earth."

### CODIFICATION OF TITLES 41 AND 46 OF THE UNITED STATES CODE

#### HON. F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR.

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 10, 2004*

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing bills to complete the codification of titles 41 (Public Contracts) and 46 (Shipping) of the United States Code as positive law. This bill has been prepared by the Office of the Law Revision Counsel of the House of Representatives as a part of the responsibilities of that office to prepare and submit to the Committee on the Judiciary for enactment into positive law all titles of the United States Code. This bill makes no change in the substance of existing law.

Anyone interested in obtaining a copy of the bill and a description of the bill, containing a section-by-section summary, should contact the Office of the Law Revision Counsel, U.S. House of Representatives, H2-304 Ford House Office Building, Washington, D.C., 20505-6711. The telephone number is (202) 226-2411.

Persons wishing to comment on the bill should submit those comments to the Office of the Law Revision Counsel no later than 45 days after today's date.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 10, 2004*

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, on roll call vote nos. 147, 148, 150, 151, and 152, for personal reasons, I was unable to be in the Chamber when the time elapsed on the vote.

Had I been able to vote, I would have voted "no" on roll call vote 147 and "aye" for roll call votes 148, 149, 150, 151, and 152.

### IN HONOR OF THE SURVIVORS AND VICTIMS OF THE PONTIAN GENOCIDE

#### HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 10, 2004*

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the survivors and victims of the Pontian Genocide of 1915–1923.

Few Americans are aware of the Pontian Genocide, a bloody period of ethnic cleansing that erased a community of Hellenes that had lived in Pontus, along the southern coast of the Black Sea in what is now northern Turkey, for more than 3 millennia. In addition to overt acts of murder, the Turkish Government employed a deliberate strategy of displacing people, without taking measures for their survival, by exposing them to death, hunger, and illness.

During a bloody 8-year reign of terror, the Turkish Government orchestrated the killing or displacement of 353,000 Greeks, Armenians, and Assyrians who had been living in Pontus. Thousands of people were murdered outright. The rest were uprooted and forcibly marched across the Anatolian border, without food or other provisions, to the Syrian border. Roughly half of the people who were taken from their homes died or were murdered. Many women were raped. The survivors suffered extraordinary hardship as they made their way to Hellas and the Soviet Union. Today, they and their descendants live throughout the Greek diaspora.

Despite the huge number of people who died or were displaced, most of the world paid no attention to their suffering. The fact that so many people could be murdered or removed from their homes without facing any consequences empowered future genocidal regimes to take similar actions.

The suffering of the victims of the Pontian Genocide must never be forgotten. Only by remembering the horrors of the past can we hope to prevent a recurrence. On May 16, 2004, members of the Pan-Pontian Federation will pay solemn homage to the victims in the hope that acknowledgment and awareness of these shameful events will not only teach future generations, but also will help mankind prevent such crimes from being repeated.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the Pan-Pontian Federation as they honor the sacrifices and memory of their noble ancestors. May the victims of the Pontian Genocide rest in peace.

### THE EISENHOWER LEGACY

#### HON. TODD RUSSELL PLATTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 10, 2004*

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Speaker, as the Member with the proud privilege of representing the

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